1	2	3
50.	Switzerland	Zurich
51.	Syria	Aleppo & Lattakia
52.	Turkey	Izmir & Bodrum
53.	United Kingdom	Belfast
54.	United States of America	Atlanta, Georgia & Honolulu (Hawaii)
55.	Uruguay	Montevideo
56.	Vanuatu (SW Pacific)	Port Vila

Indians with forged documents in Spain

†2634. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a group of 150 Indians was sent to Spain on forged documents by a travel agency in February and April, 2006;

(b) whether it is a fact that whereabouts of this group of Indians are still not known;

(c) the action taken by Government to find out the lost Indians;

(d) whether it is also a fact that some other travel agencies are also sending Indians abroad on forged documents; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to identify the guilty travel agencies and take action against them?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) As per the information received from Indian Mission in Madrid, Spain, there have been reports in the media that a group of Punjabi youth went missing on their way to Spain. They were purportedly travelling on "incentive trips" arranged by a tour operator namely Tanvir Tours and Travels, who claimed that the trip was organised by Hero Cycle, an Indian cycle manufacturer. Spanish Embassy in New Delhi has filed an FIR with the Tughlaq Road Police Station regarding forged Spanish Visas on which this group travelled.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) As per the information available the journey of illegal immigrants is arranged by some unscrupulous agents but the immigrants do not divulge details of these agents. However, as far as ECR countries are concerned, a few cases have come to the notice of the Ministry from time to time where the workers have been sent abroad by illegal/unscrupulous Recruiting agents.

(e) In case of such activities by unregistered Recruiting Agents, State Police is requested to take legal action. Concerned POE also files FIR.

During the last three years 2004 to 2006 about 170 complaints have been filed against the unregistered recruiting agents and 38 (including 21 alone in 2006) prosecution sanctions issued.

In respect of such complaints against any registered Recruiting agent, action like show cause, suspension, cancellation of certificate and even forfeiture of Bank Guarantee is taken. In appropriate cases, FIR is also filed. During the last two years 2005-2006 about 52 registration certificates were cancelled.

HSMP programme of UK

2635. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, faced with an uncertain future, about 30,000 Indians who went to London for looking better prospects under the Highly Skilled Migrants Progamme have appealed to the President and Prime Minister to take up their plight with the British Prime Minister to ensure that new migrants rules were not made applicable to those who are already in the UK under the HSMP;

(b) whether the British Government have victimized by changing the rules of the Highly Skilled Migrants Programme under which they went there; and

(c) if so, to what extent Government have agreed to consider their request?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The UK Home Office, in March, 2006, presented to the Parliament